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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4610

November 3, 1997

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FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND
COOPERATION IN EUROPE

Ms. Lou Sizemore
Congressional Liaison Specialist
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Congressional and Public Affairs
1919 M St NW.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Sizemore:

I am writing on behalf of one of my constituents, whose correspondence I am enclosing, regarding a matter under your department's jurisdiction.

I would appreciate it if you would examine the contents of the enclosed letter and provide me with a response that would address the questions and concerns as stated in the letter to me. It would be helpful if you would address your response to me, attention: Karen Foster.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely,

Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress

FRW:KF
Enclosure(s)

MAB
HDTV
Forum
7437

97-182

RECEIVED

JAN 28 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



RON WILSON
County Administrator

County of Page Board Of Supervisors

117 SOUTH COURT STREET
LURAY, VIRGINIA 22835
(540) 743-4142
FAX (540) 743-4533

Supervisors
Robert P. Good, Chairman
C. Earl Hilliard, Vice Chairman

Nora Belle Comer - District 1
Allen L. Louderback - District 2
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OVERNITE MAIL VIA UPS

October 30, 1997

NOV 01 1997

William F. Caton, Acting Secretary
Office of the Secretary, Room 222
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Caton:

I am writing to express Page County's opposition to Case Number 97-182 regarding local zoning issues involving radio and television towers.

The Page County Board of Supervisors is requesting that all action pertaining to these cases be terminated and would also request that zoning issues of this nature be left to the authority of local governments.

This request is made on the following assumptions:

(1) ~~That action from this rule would require local governments~~ to act on all zoning and building permit requests for broadcast tower construction within 21 to 45 days, ignoring current local procedures on zoning requests. Failure to do so within these time limits would cause the request to be automatically granted.

(2) Even acting within these time constraints, the proposed FCC rule would preempt all local zoning and building permit requirements ~~unless a local government~~ could demonstrate the requirement was reasonable in order to meet health or safety objectives. Other requirements such as aesthetics, property values, and environmental considerations would be preempted entirely.

(3) Any broadcaster unhappy with the local decision could appeal directly to the FCC, rather than going through the court system which is the current practice.

Let me state for the record, that the County of Page provides a reasonable time for processing zoning requests, that all zoning requests are evaluated to determine the impact before requests are considered for approval, and that a process of appeal is in place.

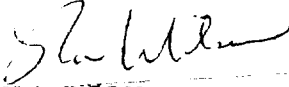
William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
October 30, 1997

considered for approval, and that a process of appeal is in place.

Zoning is a local issue that should remain in the hands of local governments and the communities in which they apply. All individuals in Page County are treated fairly and equally in their zoning requests. Actions, such as those described previously, would remove radio and television tower applicants from this process and would practically guarantee approval of all such requests, regardless of information presented to the contrary or the detrimental effect these may pose to the community.

Your consideration of Page County's request is appreciated.

Sincerely,



RON WILSON
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

cc: The Honorable Charles S. Rebb
The Honorable John Warner
The Honorable Frank Wolf
Virginia Association of Counties

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